EAST-WEST CENTER

Resource Summary

($ in thousands)

Appropriations	FY 2011 Actual	FY 2012 Estimate	FY 2013 Request	Increase / Decrease
Funds	20,958	16,700	10,800	(5,900)

Program Description

Recognizing the systemic importance of Asia (including East, South and Southeast Asia) and the Pacific to the United States, the Congress established the East-West Center (EWC) in 1960 to strengthen U.S. – Asia Pacific relationships through "cooperative study, training and research." The Center is intended to advance two vital U.S. national interests: (1) enhancing U.S. "soft power" by improving Asia and Pacific understanding and appreciation of American values and society; and (2) augmenting U.S. capacity to deal with and lead the rapidly growing Asia Pacific region. As a public diplomacy institution, the EWC works in partnership each year with more than 700 organizations throughout the United States and in the region, stretching and leveraging the value of the Federal contribution.

The Administration has recently outlined a program of increased engagement with the Asia Pacific region, and the EWC has a major role to play as a well-known and respected institution that promotes such engagement.

EWC Leadership

More than 60,000 individuals have participated in the EWC activities over 52 years and they can be found in many sectors and at all levels throughout the region. The EWC focuses on individuals who influence other's views, especially journalists, political leaders, intellectual leaders, and teachers, who may each influence thousands. At the highest political levels, the current Prime Ministers of India and Malaysia were EWC program participants early in their careers, as were most of the leaders of the Pacific Island nations, and numerous Cabinet members and parliamentarians. Many EWC participants are found in career public and military service, and among university and NGO leaders.

In recent years, the EWC has played a leadership role in promoting U.S. engagement in multilateral institutions through its involvement in the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council. It has also worked with the APEC Business Advisory Council and has a number of projects that support ASEAN cooperation. The Brunei-U.S. Partnership for ASEAN English Language Education that was recently announced in the Joint Statement of the Third ASEAN-US Leaders' Meeting held in Bali will be managed by the EWC.

The EWC maintains programs for Research, Education, Exchange and Dialogue, and the Pacific Islands.

Education Program

At the present time, the Education Program offers educational opportunities for future leaders in the Asia Pacific region and the U.S. in an era of increased social, economic, and technological interdependence. Graduate degree scholarships and certificate programs prepare students and professionals to address the challenges and complexities of the world's most dynamic region. Undergraduate degree scholarships build and strengthen the base of future leaders in East Timor and the South Pacific. In FY 2011, 590 students from multiple countries across the Asia Pacific region and the United States, as well as Canada, Latin America, Central Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, took part in EWC education programs.

Student programs have clear public diplomacy content and are group-oriented in contrast to individual scholarship programs.

Through its Asian Studies Development Program, the EWC provides professional development opportunities for educators from smaller colleges and community and junior colleges around the U.S. The program helps develop the infrastructure of Asian studies beyond a few elite institutions and helps make the next generation of Americans more aware of Asia and more competitive in a global economy. Another EWC program links U.S. K-12 schools, teachers, and principals with foreign counterparts, serving both to increase U.S. awareness of Asia and the Pacific among youth as well as enhancing the image of the U.S. abroad, with an emphasis on important areas for U.S. foreign policy including Asian Muslim communities and Okinawa.

Seminar Programs
Seminar programs provide short-term educational experiences for policymakers, professionals, and scholars from Asia, the Pacific, and the United States to seek greater understanding of the issues and challenges facing the region. By leveraging U.S. appropriated funding, the EWC has expanded its journalist programs substantially, including recent additions of a program involving U.S. journalists and journalists from Asian Muslim nations, a North Pacific program (journalists from U.S., Japan, China, and Korea), and a biannual Asia Pacific Journalist Conference of more than 200 professional journalists.

Through intense, well-crafted programs, Asians, Pacific Islanders, and Americans study issues together, thereby learning from each other and developing relationships that continue to benefit understanding on both sides for many years. A large network of partner organizations and EWC alumni have extraordinary access to government and non-government contacts, enabling the program to arrange study tours in which participants meet with the key decision makers on an exceptional range of current issues. The EWC's reputation as an independent organization is also very important to many participants – especially journalists – many of whom make clear that their employers would not permit them to participate in programs directly sponsored by the U.S. Government.

Research Program
The EWC Research Program provides analysis of key regional issues of mutual concern to the Asia Pacific region and the U.S. with a focus on analysis that will be useful in informing policy decisions as well as engage in capacity-building and training. The small research staff provides regional expertise in support of all the EWC's programs and activities. Collaborative research promotes better relations among the nations of the region and the U.S. and contributes to both capacity and institution-building. The main areas of focus are governance and security, human rights and justice, economics, environmental protection, education policy and demography and health. In the area of justice, for example, the EWC has provided judicial training for the hybrid tribunal in Cambodia and human rights judges in Indonesia, including Papua, established an annual human rights institute in Southeast Asia, and evaluated the Timor Leste criminal court. The EWC's modeling of the spread of HIV-AIDS has helped a number of governments in the region make effective intervention that has helped reduce infection rates. The Research Program effectively leverages appropriated funds with grant seeking and cost-sharing efforts aimed at expanding resources for performing the public mission through contributions from private foundations, competitive U.S. government sources, foreign governments and institutions, regional organizations, and the private sector.

Pacific Islands Development Program
Although very small, the Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP) is an enduring partnership between the EWC and twenty-two island governments. It is the only program of its kind based in the United States, bringing together heads of government from an area that spans one-third of the globe. Over the past thirty years, meetings of the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders (PICL) have included

not only the prime ministers and presidents of the independent island nation states, but also American governors from Hawaii, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. Two PICL meetings (1990 and 2003) have included participation by the President of the United States. At the November 2011 APEC meeting in Honolulu, Pacific Island leaders had the opportunity to meet with the President and Secretary of State. PIDP policy research contributes to the substance of these meetings on themes that range from promoting trade and investment with the United States to enhancing collective security and provides a news service on island issues. The EWC is widely recognized within the Pacific island region as the leading U.S. academic institution with island interests.

External Affairs and EWC in Washington
The External Affairs Office is broadly responsible for the EWC's outreach effort. The EWC has a vigorous national and regional outreach program to support its effort to become one of the leading catalysts for Asia Pacific community building. Activities include organizing public programs on freedom of the press and the importance of responsible media in the development of democracies; government, legislative, and diplomatic relations; official visitor programming and briefings; arts programming; and an alumni office. Many alumni remain committed to the EWC's mission and are now in leadership positions in government, business, and education. The international alumni conferences occur every two years, with more than 500 alumni coming to each of the past two meetings in Vietnam (2006) and Indonesia (2008) and 800 alumni for the Honolulu (2010) event.

The EWC in Washington is a three-person office that facilitates Washington-area programming of the EWC, particularly short-term exchange programs that include Washington visits. Its "Asia Matters to America: America Matters to Asia" project has provided easily accessed information on the extent and qualities of U.S. relationships with the region and important countries and groups including ASEAN, Australia, India, Japan, and Korea. This material has provided very useful information for U.S. and foreign parliamentarians.

Program Direction, Administration and Overall Mission Support
Under this heading are grouped the activities and functions of the Board of Governors; the International Advisory Panel, which provides external guidance and evaluation of EWC programs; the Office of the President, which provides the overall planning, coordination, and direction of programs, including fund-raising; and the Office of Administration, which provides personnel, fiscal, budget, computer systems, and facilities management services.

Justification of Request

The FY 2013 request of $10.8 million for the EWC is a net decrease of $10.2 million from the FY 2011 Actual and $5.9 million below the FY 2012 Estimate. At this funding level, the Center must fundamentally reshape itself. Some projects will be carried out if funding outside of EWC's direct appropriation can be secured. The number of scholarships as well as the award amount will be reduced. Center research activities will be more focused around issues of health, environment, governance and justice, regional relationships and organizations, and trade and their interrelationships. The Pacific Islands Development Program will be folded into the larger Research umbrella. The Education and Seminars Programs and External Affairs will focus on its degree fellow awards and programs that are self-supporting, attract large external funding or are mission-critical, such as the journalism exchanges and alumni engagement. To provide greater efficiencies and prioritize funding for other activities, the EWC in Washington, which currently has a staff of three and has limited areas of focus, will likely be closed. Administration will be downsized and the Center intends to generate increased income by renting space to a broader spectrum of audiences.

EAST-WEST CENTER

Funds by Program Activity

($ in thousands)

	FY 2011 Actual	FY 2012 Estimate	FY 2013 Request	Increase / Decrease
Public Diplomacy	20,958	16,700	10,800	(5,900)
Total	**20,958**	**16,700**	**10,800**	**(5,900)**

Funds by Object Class

($ in thousands)

	FY 2011 Actual	FY 2012 Estimate	FY 2013 Request	Increase / Decrease
4100 Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	20,958	16,700	10,800	(5,900)
Total	**20,958**	**16,700**	**10,800**	**(5,900)**